

NEWS RELEASE

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED STATES ATTORNEY
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF ILLINOIS**

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For Immediate Release

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Ronald J. Tenpas, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Illinois, announced today that on August 19, 2005, **DAVID LEE EMERSON**, age 50, of Brooklyn, Illinois, pled guilty to a three (3) count superseding indictment charging him, in Count 1, with being a previously convicted felon in possession of a firearm; and in Counts 2 and 3, with possession with the intent to distribute crack cocaine, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 922(g)(1), and Title 21, United States Code, Sections 841(a)(1), 841(b)(1)(B), and 841(b)(1)(C), respectively.

The offense set forth in Count 1 carries with it a maximum penalty of not more than ten (10) years' imprisonment, or a \$250,000 fine, or both, and at least two (2) years', but not more than three (3) years', supervised release. The offense set forth in Count 2 carries with it a penalty of a term of imprisonment from 10 years to life, a fine of not more than \$4 million, and a term of supervised release of at least 5 years. The offense set forth in Count 3 carries with it a maximum penalty of not more than 30 years' imprisonment, a fine of not more than \$2 million, and a term of supervised release of at least 6 years. Sentencing is scheduled for November 11, 2005, in East St. Louis, Illinois.

The investigation was conducted by the Brooklyn Police Department, Illinois State Police, and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives, in cooperation with the St. Clair County States Attorney's Office, as part of those agencies' participation in Project Safe Neighborhoods, a nation-wide initiative intended to combat gun and drug crimes. The case was handled by Assistant United States Attorney Angela Scott.